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GROUP 1700

Atty. Docket No. 0503-1089

PATENTS

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Francis BRIAND et al.

Confirmation No. 8422

Serial No. 09/870,014

GROUP 1725

Filed May 31, 2001

Examiner Kevin L MCHENRY

LASER/ARC HYBRID WELDING PROCESS  
WITH APPROPRIATE GAS MIXTURE

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of February 27, 2003,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (twice amended) A process for welding one or more metal workpieces to be joined together by producing at least one welded joint between edges to be welded of said metal workpiece or workpieces, said workpiece or workpieces being made of steel, by using at least one laser beam and at least one electric arc, in which process, during welding of the joint, shielding at least one part of a welding zone comprising at least one part of said welded joint during welding with at least one shielding atmosphere formed by a ternary gas mixture consisting of:

argon;

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